

INVITED LECTURES

Formations of Small Satellites Open Up New Application Fields

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Technology progress for small satellites allows self-organizing multi-satellite systems for observations. The satellite formation will be configured by miniature attitude and orbit control systems to optimize network properties. This potential is exploited in Earth observation regarding multi-perspective measurements. At the launch pad in California are currently multi-satellite missions from Würzburg, such as - TOM : 3 cooperating satellites to generate 3D surface images, - CuBy : 5 satellites with multi-spectral cameras for biomonitring and geodesy applications. Transfer of such formation principles to support astronomical observations offer good potential for innovative distributed sensing methods and will be jointly further explored during this workshop.